

Urban District of Denton.



REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF
DENTON
1939


J. MARSHALL ROSS,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.
Medical Officer of Health.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor JOHN BARDSLEY, Chairman.
„ SYDNEY MORROW, J.P. (ex-officio).
„ WILLIAM GEORGE SMITH.
„ FRED WORTHINGTON.
„ JOHN WHITEHEAD BLACKSHAW.
„ THOMAS HENRY WHITELEY.
„ JOHN ROBERTS.
„ FRED THOMPSON.
„ PERCY WILSON.
„ JOHN HENRY BOOTH.
„ MARGARET JANE CLEPHAN, C.C.
„ STANLEY WALKER.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

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„ STANLEY WALKER.
Mrs. ETHEL COOKE.
Mrs. ELLEN WHELAN.
Miss ADA MARIANNE WALKER.
Mrs. SARAH CLAYTON.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health,

Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare:

J. MARSHALL ROSS,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G.

Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector,

Cleansing Superintendent and Petroleum Officer:

CECIL R. LANGDON,

Cert. R.S.I., & S.I. Joint Board,

Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert., R.S.I.

Diploma of the R.I.P.H. & H.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Miss Helen Jones: State Registered Nurse, State Certified
Midwife, New Health Visitors' Certificate.

Miss Annie Heywood: State Registered Nurse, State Certified
Midwife, New Health Visitors' Certificate.

CLERICAL STAFF.

Chief Clerk: W. Leslie King.

Typist: Miss Margaret Chadwick.

Public Health Department,
16, Victoria Street,
Denton.

**The Chairman and Members of the
Maternity and Child Welfare Committee
and the Public Health Committee.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report for 1939.

There are several features worthy of attention, and of these perhaps the most important is the reduction in Infectious Disease, set out on page 22 (a). This is especially marked in Diphtheria, where the decrease is 50%, and in Scarlet Fever 37%. It will be noted, however, that there has been a tendency for increased admissions to Hospital. Even so, two deaths from Diphtheria occurred during the year. This is unfortunate for two reasons, first, in that two lives have been needlessly thrown away when there is a remedy at hand helping to prevent this, and secondly, there is still a tendency for some parents to delay in sending for medical aid during illness.

The remedy, of course, to which I refer is Immunisation, and your enthusiasm in this direction has been a great source of encouragement. The Table on page 22 will therefore be of special interest, as it lays out the numbers of children immunised since 1935; from this it is seen that 43.5% were immunised at the end of 1939. Further, no case of Diphtheria has occurred in any child so protected. You are also aware that a further drive has been initiated, and there is evidence that parents are gradually realising the benefits of such preventive treatment. Diphtheria still remains one of the greatest killing diseases in young children, and it is significant that over 50% of the cases in your area occurred in the 5—10 age group.

The notification of Measles and Whooping Cough became compulsory in November, 1939.

There was a slight increase in the Infantile Mortality Rate, but it still remains below that for England and Wales.

The general lay-out of the Report has been altered to conform with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. It has also been suggested that future reports be curtailed in view of the increasing pressure of work in other directions and the need for economy in paper. Records will be preserved so that on cessation of hostilities a report can be made dealing with the war period.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

April, 1942.

J. MARSHALL ROSS.

Annual Report

STATISTICAL.

The following are the general statistics for the year 1939:—

Area (in acres)	2,592.25
Population (Census, 1931)	17,384
Estimated population at the middle of 1939, supplied by the Registrar-General	22,830
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1939, according to the Rate Books	7,868
Rateable Value	£120,579
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£456

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	{	Legitimate	Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.5
		Illegitimate	345	172	173		
		Total	8	5	3		
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate	353	177	176	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births...	61
		Illegitimate	23	12	11		
		Total	290	145	145		
Deaths	{	Legitimate	23	12	11	Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.7
		Illegitimate	290	145	145		
		Total	23	12	11		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes—	{	Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Comparability Factor	1.03
		Other Puerperal Causes	3	7.93	7.93		
		Total	3	7.93	7.93		
Death rate of Infants under one year of age—	{	All Infants per 1,000 live births	47	47	47	Adjusted Death-rate, per 1,000 est. pop.....	13
		Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	46	46	46		
		Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	125	125	125		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	{	Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0	0	0	Death from Cancer (all ages)	46
		Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	0	0	0		
		Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs. of age)	0	0	0		

Population— For Birth-rate 22,700 For Death-rate 22,830 Mean of 5 years, 1934-1938 Year—1938 1939 Increase or decrease in 5 yrs. avge. Previous year	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 <i>Live</i> Births	Per 1,000 <i>Total</i> (Live and Still) Births	
	14.0	12.6	...	1.77	2.34	2.23	62
	15.8	13.6	...	1.84	2.89	2.82	43
	15.5	*12.7	...	2.01	8.45	7.93	47
	+1.5	+0.1	...	+0.24	+6.11	+5.70	-15
	-0.3	-0.9	...	+0.17	+5.56	+5.11	+4

* 1939 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor, 1.03) = 13.0 per 1,000.

DEATHS.

The following table shows the chief causes of death during the year:—

Cause of Death.	M.		F.
Diphtheria	2	...	—
Influenza	2	...	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	...	7
Other Tuberculosis	2	...	—
General Paralysis of Insane, etc.	2	...	1
Cancer	26	...	20
Diabetes	2	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc	6	...	8
Heart Disease	40	...	52
Aneurysm	1	...	—
Other Circulatory Diseases	10	...	11
Bronchitis	5	...	4
Pneumonia	7	...	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	...	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	...	—
Appendicitis	1	...	2
Cirrhosis of the Liver	1	...	—
Other Liver Diseases	—	...	2
Other Digestive Diseases	2	...	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	...	3
Other Puerperal Diseases	—	...	3
Congenital Causes, etc.	9	...	4
Senility	3	...	6
Suicide	1	...	1
Other Violence	5	...	5
Other Defined Diseases	7	...	7
Total	145	...	145

TABLE SHOWING BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR FIVE YEARS
COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES.

Year	Population estimated at middle of year	BIRTHS							DEATHS					Deaths under 1 year		
		Legiti- mate		Illegiti- mate		Total	Rate per 1,000 population	England and Wales	M	F	Total	Rate per 1,000 population	England and Wales	Number	Rate Per 1,000 Births	England and Wales
		M	F	M	F											
1935	18770	156	115	3	3	277	14.7	14.7	121	107	228	21.1	11.7	17	61	57
1936	19670	127	118	3	5	253	12.8	14.8	135	138	273	13.8	12.1	22	86	59
1937	21090	174	168	4	5	351	16.6	14.9	137	127	264	12.5	12.4	20	56	58
1938	21700	158	174	8	5	345	15.8	15.1	147	149	296	13.6	11.6	15	43	53
1939	22830	172	173	5	3	353	15.5	15.0	145	145	290	12.7	12.1	17	47	50

TABLE SHOWING AGE AND CAUSES OF INFANTS' DEATHS

Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total under one year
M 7 F 3	2 1	..... .....	1	10 4	1 .....	..... 1	1 .....	..... .....	12 5

CAUSE OF DEATH:—

Prematurity	7
Mal-development	2
Birth Injury	4
Infectious Disease	3
Pyloric Stenosis	1

It is very significant that the first three causes accounted for 13 out of 17 deaths—76 per cent. Ignoring cases of mal-development it is evident that improvements in ante-natal service and increased care of the expectant mother are still necessary. Infantile Mortality has certainly decreased in the past few years, but this is due to a large reduction in deaths from age 1 month—1 year. Until a decrease is brought about in neonatal deaths, it is safe to state that further reduction in Infantile Mortality Rate is extremely unlikely.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Pathological and bacteriological work is entrusted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

The following table shows work done by the Laboratory during the year:—

Month.	Diphtheria.			Tuberculosis Human Sputum.			Tuberculosis Bovine Milk.		
	Total	+		Total	+		Total	+	
January	4	...	0						
February	8	...	2				1	...	0
March	9	...	5	...	1	...	2	...	0
April	21	...	5	...	3	...			
May	20	...	1	...	3	...			
June	9	...	0	...	3	...			
July	8	...	1	...	2	...			
August	18	...	4	...	2	...			
September ...	7	...	3	...	2	...			
October	3	...	1	...	3	...			
November ...	1	...	1	...	1	...			
December	2	...	0				1	...	0
	110	23		20	6		4		0

VARIOUS INVESTIGATIONS:

Nature.	No. of Samples.
Milk, Methylene Blue Reduction Test and B. Coli ...	2
Ice Cream	2
Diphtheria, virulence	1

Total No. of Specimens in List "A" 134

Total No. of Specimens in List "B" 5

Grand Total of Specimens received... 139

AMBULANCE FACILITIES:

(a) For Infectious Cases.—The Local Authority has the use of the Hyde Borough Infectious Diseases Motor Ambulance, which was used on 38 occasions.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.—The Local Authority has the use of the Hyde Borough Motor Ambulance, which was used on 521 occasions.

NURSING IN THE HOME:

The Denton Sick Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the County Nursing Association, provides for nursing in all cases except Maternity and Infectious Diseases. One Nurse is employed and her address is the Nurses' Home, Market Street, Denton.

The Local Authority contributed the sum of £25 towards the funds of the Association.

No provision has been made in the district for professional nursing of infectious patients, e.g., Measles, Whooping Cough, etc.

The work of the Sick Nursing Association is not related to or administered in co-operation with the National Health Insurance.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND GENERAL SURGICAL:

- (1) Manchester Royal Infirmary, Oxford Road and Roby Street.
- (2) Manchester Ancoats Hospital.
- (3) Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.
- (4) Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.
- (5) Manchester and Salford Hospital for Diseases of the Skin.

VENEREAL DISEASES:

The Lancashire County Council has organised a scheme for the Prevention and Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

The following are Treatment Centres or Clinics:—

Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.

Manchester Royal Infirmary.

Manchester St. Luke's Hospital.

Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases
(Syphilis and Skin Diseases only treated at this Hospital).

Manchester St. Mary's Hospitals

(Whitworth Street West Branch).

Manchester Ancoats Hospital.

Salford Municipal Clinic.

TUBERCULOSIS:

The Lancashire County Council has made provision for expert examination and diagnosis of cases, together with the supervision, special treatment and care of all known tuberculosis persons at their:

1. Ashton-under-Lyne Dispensary.
2. Sanatoria.
3. Pulmonary Hospitals, also at General Hospitals (especially for Non-Pulmonary cases).
4. Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.
5. Manchester Royal Infirmary.
6. Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.

MENTAL:

Cases are admitted to Darnton House, Ashton-under-Lyne.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT:

Cases are received at the Manchester Ear Hospital, Grosvenor Square, All Saints'; Ancoats Hospital; Manchester Children's Hospital, Gartside Street. School children are treated under the County Council scheme by agreement at Ancoats Hospital and Ashton District Infirmary.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

The Council contributed the sum of £157 10s. 0d. to the various Hospitals serving the district, and the sum of £1,457 0s. 0d. was contributed through the Denton Hospital Fund.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE:

The Midwifery Service in the district is under the control of the County Council. There are two whole-time midwives and a third devotes the greater part of her time to this district.

Nurse Harding, 3, Nield Road. Tel. No. DEN. 2045.
Nurse Blacklie, 6, Wainwright Ave. Tel. No. EAS. 0751.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE:

The Council provides and maintains ONE infant Welfare Centre. The number of weekly sessions have been increased from two to four to obviate overcrowding in war conditions.

ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN:

Children under 1 year	5,600
Children over 1 year	3,162

HOME VISITS:

The following visits were paid by the Health Visitors during the year:—

Expectant Mothers—First	37
Subsequent	14
Infants—First	366
Subsequent	2,067
Children over 1 year	1,464
Stillbirths	22

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC:

Dr. C. Philip Brentnall, M.C., Obstetric Consultant and Hon. Surgeon, St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, attends at the Centre on the second and last Wednesday of each month.

	1939	1938	1937
Number of mothers who attended the Clinic	178 ...	173 ...	159
Number of Attendances	562 ...	489 ...	528

A "Sunrae" Carbon Arc and a Mercury Vapour Lamp are used for the treatment of children.

	1939	1938	1937
New cases treated during the year	55 ...	53 ...	47
Number of children who received treatment	80 ...	72 ...	76
Total number of attendances	1347 ...	1606 ...	1379

SUPPLY OF MILK FOOD:

Number of cases to which free milk was supplied	131
Packets of Dried Milk (supplied free of cost) ...	558
Packets of Dried Milk supplied at half cost	1220

In addition to the above, Bovril and other nourishments have been allowed free to expectant and nursing mothers and cases of sickness.

This work is very ably conducted by the Voluntary Welfare Association.

MATERNITY HOMES AND HOSPITALS:

An agreement has now been made with St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, for the admission of Maternity Patients on a basis of £3 3s. 0d. per week. This Authority accepts full responsibility for maintenance, and recovery is made according to circumstances. This is in addition to our arrangements with the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne. Arrangements have also been made with St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester, for the use of their Emergency Maternity Unit. Two cases were admitted to Hospital under the above arrangement.

Children are admitted to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury; the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne; and Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are treated at the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital; mild cases are treated at home and attended by the Health Visitor.

Arrangements have been made for the services of an Obstetric Consultant for attendance at the patients' own home; Hospital treatment for cases of complication of labour and the puerperium; Laboratory facilities for examination of pathological material, provision of trained nurses in case of Puerperal Pyrexia.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION:

The Health Visitors have been appointed Infant Protection Visitors. The number of children on the register at the end of the year was four.

DENTAL:

Children under five years of age receive treatment at the Manchester Dental Hospital. Over five years of age provision is made by the Lancashire County Council Education Authority at their Clinic at Denton Road, Audenshaw.

ORTHOPÆDIC:

This Authority is a joint authority with the County Council in a scheme for the treatment of crippled children under five years of age. A Clinic is held monthly at Water Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, where cases are examined by an Orthopædic Specialist. Children requiring operative or other treatment are admitted to the County Council's Orthopædic Hospital at Biddulph.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY:

The whole of the district is supplied from the mains of the Manchester Corporation. The supply is constant and of good quality and no likely possibility of contamination or plumbo solvency.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:

The drainage of the district is on the partially separate system. Contract No. 1 in connection with the general drainage scheme was completed during the year. Contract No. 2, a scheme which allows for the prevention of pollution of rivers and streams, has been held over because of war restrictions. The discharge of crude sewage in the absence of storm water takes place from the Denton Brook Sewer near Horse Close Wood into the River Tame. Quite a number of storm overflows throughout the district come into operation before six D.W.F. Nine houses in River Lane and Hulmes Wood, which were too low-lying to be drained into the Council's sewers, have been demolished under the Housing Act, 1936. Domestic water from these premises formerly discharged into the River Tame.

RIVERS AND STREAMS:

All known sources of pollution will be dealt with under the General Drainage Scheme mentioned under the preceding heading.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

Three waste W.C.s were converted into F.W.C.s by owners. The Closet accommodation at the end of the year was as follows:—

W.C.s with Cistern Flush.		W.C.s Hand- flushed and waste water.		Privies.		Pails.
8389	...	293	...	Nil	...	16

CLOSET CONVERSION SCHEME:

The Council had submitted a scheme for the conversion of 276 Tippler Closets at private dwellings and 20 Trough Closets at St. Mary's C.E. School and St. Lawrence's C.E. School. Unfortunately, this also has been held over because of war restrictions.

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

It has not been found necessary to improve the method of refuse collection or disposal, but the salvage of saleable materials was actively pursued. A Mechanical Gully Emptier was purchased and put into service in November.

There are no Privy Middens or Dry Ashpits. There were 7,699 Dustbins in use at the end of the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA:

The following is a classified statement of the number of premises visited by the Sanitary Inspector.

House Drainage	35
Piggeries and Stables	57
Cowsheds	70
Dairies and Milkshops	217
Butchers' Shops	256
Slaughterhouses	711
Offensive Trades	46
Bakehouses	61
Fish Frying Places	10
Factories	26
School Yards and Lavatories	19
Workshops	1
Council's Tips	203
Hawkers' Carts	41
Market Stalls	361
Interviews with Agents, Owners, etc., of Property...	149
Tents, Vans and Sheds	26
Public Conveniences	90
Refuse Collection	32
Rats and Mice	16
Water Supply	7
Cinemas	1
Shops Act	—
Petroleum Act	16
Fishmongers	56
Grocers	9
Greengrocers	24
Ice Cream Premises	29
Cafes	3
Miscellaneous	23

**RESULT OF ACTION IN REGARD TO DEFECTS OR
NUISANCES DISCOVERED:**

Dustbins renewed	230
Blocked Drains, Gulleys and W.C. released	53
Drains re-layed	1
Yard Walls and Surfaces repaired	15
Downspouts disconnected from Drains or repaired...	7
W.C. Cisterns repaired	14
Water Supply Pipe repaired	3
W.C. Pedestals renewed	3
Roofs repaired	41
Eaves, Gutters repaired	6
Damp Walls remedied	62
Window Frames repaired	61
Floors repaired	22
Walls replastered	27
Hand-rails repaired	2
Ceilings replastered	3
Fire Grates repaired	27
Miscellaneous repairs	69

NUMBER OF NOTICES.

	Served.		Complied with.	
	Informal.	Statutory.	Informal.	Statutory.
Public Health Act, 1936	313	10	297	11
Housing Act, 1936	123	16	125	13
	436	26	422	24

SHOPS AND OFFICES:

Frequent visits of Shops and Offices have been made, but no action was necessary either under the Shops Act, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

CAMPING SITES:

No sites were used for camping during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

The emission of black smoke is limited to 2 minutes per half-hour. Twenty-eight observations were made and offenders interviewed and warned. Advice was also given in several instances.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS:

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district.

ERADICATION OF BUGS:

During the year 50 houses were found to be infested with bugs. All were fumigated with sulphur dioxide and liquid spray (Zaldecide and Vermicine). Fumigation of furniture in cases of suspected infestation is employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council's houses. The work of disinfection is carried out by the local authority.

SCHOOLS:

There are three Provided and five Non-Provided Schools in the District. The closet accommodation at all schools is sufficient, with the exception of those at St. Mary's and St. Lawrence's C. of E. Schools. These were included in the conversion mentioned earlier, which had to be postponed because of the outbreak of war. The road approaches to St. Mary's R.C. School and to Russell Scott Council School are badly in need of repair.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

STATISTICS:

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:—

1. By the Local Authority	110
2. By other bodies or persons	418

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1609
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2181
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	379
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	123

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their Officers	398
---	-----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR:

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repair	16
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of houses in respect of which Notices were served	10
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) By Owners	11
(b) By Local Authority	Nil
(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	18
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	61
(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936 (PART IV.)—OVERCROWDING:

(A) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	81
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	105
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	609
(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	Nil
(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	9
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	46

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY:

There were 25 cow-keepers on the register at the end of the year, 9 of whom were dairy farmers. The number of dairymen or milk purveyors registered was 111.

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1936, 3 Dealers' Licences were issued, 2 in respect of Tuberculin-tested Milk and 1 in respect of Accredited Milk. 14 Supplementary Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk were also issued.

MINIT SEDIMENT TEST:

105 Samples of Milk were submitted to test, 67 of which were satisfactory and 38 unsatisfactory.

METHYLENE BLUE AND B COLI:

36 Samples of Milk were submitted for examination, 27 of which proved satisfactory and 9 unsatisfactory.

TEST FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI:

4 Samples of Milk were submitted for examination, none of which were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:

Slaughterhouses, meat-shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared are inspected regularly by the Sanitary Inspector. There are six slaughterhouses in use in the district and 23 Slaughtermen were registered in accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. During the year 781 cattle (excluding cows), 142 cows, 31 calves, 5,796 sheep and lambs, and 630 pigs were killed, all of which were inspected.

The following table shows the amount of meat and other foods seized or surrendered as being unfit for human consumption during the year:—

NUMBER OF ANIMALS INSPECTED:

Beasts	781
Cows	142
Sheep	5796
Pigs	630
Calves	31

TOTAL WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED:

Disease or Condition.	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Tuberculosis—Bovine	3	6	0	22
Porcine	—	13	0	13
Cirrhosis	—	4	2	27
Septicæmia	—	—	3	22
Fevered	—	1	1	5
Decomposition	—	1	3	12
Miscellaneous	—	—	2	12
Unsound Tinned Foods	—	—	—	17
Fish	—	—	—	11
Total	4	16	0	17

BAKEHOUSES:

There are 49 Bakehouses in the district. They are kept under regular supervision and the condition in all has been found satisfactory.

ADULTERATION:

The Council is not an Authority under the Food and Drugs Acts.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of Diphtheria was 17, showing 50% decrease compared with 1938. The Clinical type was Tonsillar and mostly in school children. One persistent carrier, the daughter of a clinical case, was found and because of enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids and persistent Virulent Swabs, she was operated on by an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist. The result was good and subsequent swabs proved negative.

There was also a marked decrease in Scarlet Fever compared with the previous year. It is significant to note, however, in the table for 1939 that both in Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria there is a gradual rise in the adult groups.

There was a tendency for increased admissions to Hospital, especially so in Scarlet Fever. It is tried as far as possible to isolate these cases at home.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

In 1935 Immunisation was offered to all children up to the age of 14. This was carried out by Dr. Stewart at the Welfare Centre, using Alum Precipitated Toxoid single dose method. The accompanying table shows the number of children immunised each year since then, and the percentage of the child population reckoned to be immunised at the end of 1939.

No child that had been immunised developed Diphtheria.

CHILDREN IMMUNISED BETWEEN 1935 AND 1939.

Age.	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	
Under 1	12	7	14	6	10	
1 — 2	25	6	21	17	17	
2 — 3	33	3	23	9	8	
3 — 4	31	2	20	8	4	
4 — 5	49	4	23	4	1	Total under 5=163
5 — 6	71	5	39	8	1	
6 — 7	82	2	35	4	—	
7 — 8	76	2	44	3	—	
8 — 9	70	—	29	3	—	
9 —10	95	—	28	6	—	
10 —11	68	—	23	—	—	
11 —12	63	—	20	2	—	
12 —13	44	—	13	2	—	
13 —14	—	1	—	1	—	
14 —15	1	—	—	—	—	Total 5—15 = 926
15 —16	69	—	38	1	—	
16 —17	3	—	3	—	—	
	—	—	—	—	—	
	792	32	373	74	41	
	—	—	—	—	—	

Total Number of Children Immunised	1312
% age of 0—5 immunised at end of 1939	9.9
% age of 5—15 immunised at end of 1939	33.6
	—
Total % age	43.5
	—

[Note that adjustments have to be made for increase in age].

“Notifiable” Diseases.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.																				Total Deaths. (The figure in this column should agree with those supplied by the Registrar General.)		Hospitals.													
	Total Cases at all ages	Years.																		Total Cases removed to Hospital from the district.			Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.													
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over.	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939		1938	1939														
Smallpox	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939		
Scarlet Fever	108	68	...	...	1	...	4	1	2	7	9	4	44	26	36	16	4	6	7	6	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup	84	17	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	1	3	...	18	9	2	1	1	2	4	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	1	2	28	27	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	19	36	2	...	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	2	3	2	9	1	3	5	14	3	2	18	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Acute Influenza Pneumonia																																				
Puerperal Fever
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	1	3	1	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Erysipelas	13	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Malaria—Contracted in this Country	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Contracted abroad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	191	129	4	1	4	2	5	2	7	9	12	4	64	37	40	18	8	11	19	17	8	7	14	17	6	4	24	13	48	38	2	4	...	...

DISINFECTION:

The following are the particulars of disinfection carried out after infectious disease:—

Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Tuberculosis.
68	...	17	...	9

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following tabulation shows the number of new cases and mortality during 1939:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.....								
0— 1 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1— 5 .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15 .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 .....	...	1	...	2	...	2	...	...
20—25	2	3	...	...	...	1	1	...
25—35	2	3	2	1	2	3	1	...
35—45	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
45—55	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
55—65	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals...	11	10	3	3	6	7	2	...
	21		6		13		2	

Report of Tuberculosis Officer for the Year.

I am obliged to Dr. George Fletcher, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, L.C.C. Tuberculosis Dispensary, Ashton-under-Lyne, for the following report on the work done in Denton in connection with tuberculosis during the year:

During the year 25 notifications of patients suffering from tuberculosis were received. Of these 18 were notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, 6 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis and one combined case.

Of the 18 pulmonary cases, 12 were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, one had negative sputum, one had no sputum, and in four cases the sputum was not examined. The combined case had no sputum.

The 6 non-pulmonary cases are classified as follows: Glands 1, Hip 1, Abdomen 1, Spine 1, Meninges 1, Skin 1.

Five of the notified cases died during the year (four pulmonary and one non-pulmonary).

Eighteen of the cases applied for treatment. In the remaining 7 cases no application was made for the following reasons: Diagnosis not confirmed after examination 1, removed from district 1, died immediately after notification 4, not traceable 1.

Of the patients who applied for treatment 6 were sent to Sanatoria, 4 to Pulmonary Hospital and 1 to Orthopædic Hospital. The remaining 7 cases were under dispensary supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary for diagnosis. During the year 60 new cases were sent for diagnosis by the Doctors, School Medical Officers, etc.

The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment was 267.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite tuberculosis, and 13 of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting special attention is paid to the open cases, i.e., cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1939, there were 37 such cases known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1939, there were 42 positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

Eight of the positive cases died during the year.

One positive case removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation of the positive cases was as follows:—

Separate room	24
Separate bed	25
Unable to have separate bed	2

Eighteen of the positive cases were in institution for treatment and isolation at some time during the year.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1939, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1939 was 19. The other 23 had either negative or no sputum.

Of the 19 cases who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1939, 6 had separate room, 9 had separate bed, and 4 were in institution at the end of the year.

No housing defects were reported during the year.

Fifty-eight specimens of sputum were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these 16 were positive and 42 were negative.

During the year 1939, 19 cases were discharged from institution as follows:—

Sanatoria	11
Pulmonary Hospital	4
General Hospital	1
Orthopædic Hospital	2
Non-Pulmonary Sanatoria	0
Skin Hospital	1

The results on discharge were as follows:—

Quiescent or arrested	5
Improved	7
I.S.Q.	0
Worse	0
Died	7
Diagnosis not confirmed	0

During the year there were no deaths from tuberculosis where the cases had not been notified previously.

(Signed) G. FLETCHER,
Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

